

Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-02 IO-10 NSC-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

PA-01 PRS-01 AGR-05 /085 W

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R 141317Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7506

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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EO 11652 NA

TAGS: PFOR NI GH

SUB: ELECTION OF ADB PRESIDENT: GHANA RESENTS NIGERIAN

NON-SUPPORT

1. GHANA PRESS MAY 13 REPORTED FAILURE OF GHANAIAI CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENCY OF AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (FORDWOR) TO WIN ELECTION AT DAKAR ADB MEETING LAST WEEK IN TERMS OF LINE-UP OF ARABS AND THEIR SYMPATHIZERS AGAINST OTHER SUB-SAHARAN AFRICANS, WITH AGSTENTION OF NIGERIA THE FACTOR THAT TIPPED SCALES AGAINST GHANAIAI CANDIDATE.

2. EDITORIAL IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY GRAPHIC MAY 13 WAS STRONG ATTACH ON NIGERIA FOR DOUBLE-CROSS. NIGERIA REPORTEDLY HAD AGREED TO SUPPORT GHANAIAI CANDIDATE ON SECOND BALLOT IF HE GHATHERED MORE VOTES ON FIRST BALLOT THAN NIGERIA'S OWN CANDIDATE. INSTEAD, NIGERIA ABSTAINED ON SUBSEQUENT BALLOTS. ACCORDING TO EDITOR, NIGERIA'S VOTE WOULD HAVE MADE THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DIFFEJRENCE. NIGERIAN ACTION CITED AS EXAMPLE OF ONE-WAY

NATURE OF NEIGHBORLINESS AND "BROTHERHOOD" POLICY FOLLOWED BY GHANA IN ITS RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA. EDITORIAL QUESTIONS CHANCES OF SUCCESS OF WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY IN LIGHT THIS SAMPLE OF NIGERIAN RELIABILITY.

3. EDITOR GOES ON MAKE SIMILAR POINT IN WIDER CONTEXT OF ARAB-BLACK AFRICAN SOLIDARITY, POINTING OUT THAT BLACK AFRICANS HAD GIVEN ARABS SPONTANEOUS AND UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT AT TIME OF 1973 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR AND HAVE GAINED NOTHING BY IT FROM ARABS. ARAB MONOPOLY ON ADB PRESIDENCY SINCE BANK'S INCEPTION AND FAILURE TO PASS PRESIDENCY TO BLACK AFRICAN THIS TIME SHOWED WHAT KIND OF FRIENDS ARABS CONSIDERED BLACK AFRICANS TO BE. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES "IT IS TIME TO FIND OUT WHO OUR REAL FRIENDS ARE AND TO COUNT THE COST OF GOOD NEIGHBORLINESS."

4. COMMENT: THIS IS STRONGEST ATTACK ON NIGERIA WE HAVE SEEN IN PRINT UNDER THIS GOVERNMENT; DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE IT APPEARED IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED PAPER WITHOUT ADVANCE GOG APPROVAL IF NOT INSPIRATION. ASIDE FROM IMMEDIATE OCCASION, FEELINGS REFLECTED THIS EDITORIAL ARE COMMON VIEW OF BIGGER, RICHER NIGERIA IN THIS COUNTRY. GHANAIS, LIKE MANY OTHER WEST AFRICANS, ARE GENUINELY CONCERNED ABOUT WEIGHTS NIGERIA WILL THROW IN ANY EVENTUAL WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC GROUPING. IN LIGHT ABOVE, IS QUITE LIKELY THAT OAU JULY MEETING WILL SEE ACROMONIUS DISPUTE OVER OAU ENDORSEMENT OF AFRICAN CANDIDATE FOR FAO POSITION, AS BOTH GHANA AND NIGERIA ARE PUSHING THEIR OWN CANDIDATES.
BLACK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, BANKS, ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ACCRA03047
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750170-0328
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750551/aaaabttm.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ELECTION OF ADB PRESIDENT: GHANA RESENTS NIGERIAN NON-SUPPORT
TAGS: PFOR, NI, GH, ADB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006